

09/554733

422, rec'd PCT/PTO 19 MAY 2000

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No.: 30098.4

#5
Re/x
9-11-00

In re patent application of

Kalle Nalo GmbH & Co. KG

Serial No.: Unassigned

Group Art Unit: Unassigned

Filed: May 19, 2000

Examiner: Unassigned

For: SPONGE CLOTH BASED ON CELLULOSE AND PRODUCTION THEREOF

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Preliminary to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 2, after line 14, insert --WO 97/42259 discloses sponge cloths containing reinforcing fibers and processes for producing them. The fibers can be added as additive or else originate from the cellulosic starting material if this is only incompletely dissolved. The dissolving of the cellulose material, which is pretreated with steam under high pressure, is generally effected using strongly alkaline, aqueous solutions, preferably with NaOH solutions. As well as a pore former, a blowing agent is additionally used as well at all times, for example a surfactant such as sodium lauryl sulfate.

EP-A 712 889 discloses fiber-containing cellulose/amine oxide solutions for producing mainly fibers, papers, films and food casings. Sponges are mentioned as well, but not sponge cloths.